NUMBER 10,013.

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 13, 1916.

PRICE ONE CENT.

NEWMAN FOR PLAN TO TAKE OVER PHONES

Commissioner Gives His Support to Lewis Municipal Ownership Bill.

MEASURE MUCH DISCUSSED

Civic Associations Aroused by Charges of High Cost of Telephoning.

Commissioner Newman today gave his personal indorsement to the bill introduced in the House yesterday by Congressman David J. Lewis of Mary land, providing that the Government take over and operate the telephone system of the District.

"The purposes of the bill appear to me to be entirely feasible," said Com-missioner Newman. "I hope it will No measure affecting District util-

ftles for a long time has attracted the widespread attention given to Congressman Lewis' proposal. Deeply Interested.

Many civic leaders who were doubt ful about the proposal he makes in his bill, were deeply interested in the statements be made in an interview in The Times in which the Maryland legislator asserted tele-phone service in the District is more costly than in any other city in the country except New York and San

Francisco.

Officials of the telephone company here today were silent. They intimated that a statement might be made later, in which they would assail Mr. Lewis figures, by which he sought to establish the high cost of telephoning here.

Rates Assailed.

The citizens' association, that of Southeast Washington, already had a report from its utilities committee assalling the rates of the telephone com pany here.

Other citizens' associations are expected to take up the matter and in quire into Congressman Lewis' state ments, as well as gather other data egarding the relative telephone rates

of Washington and other cities.

The first occasion when the matter will come to public attention, probably, will be on Friday evening, when A. P. Conner, ebairman of the committee of the southeast citizens' body, which brought in the report assailing the telephone company, speaks before the Builders' and Manufacturers' Exchange.

To Make Disclosures Mr. Connor today said he intended

at that time, to make some disclosures about the contracts between the Gov-He believes he Government is paying an unduly high rate both for service and for telephone equipment.
Members of the Public Utilities
Commission, as such, declined to make
any statement today about Congress-(Continued on Page Sixteen.)

NEW RULER SEES VICTORY

Emperor Karl Says People Will Fight.

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 13 .- "The final victory is no longer doubtful," said Emperor Karl of Austria-Hungary, in his proclamation to Austro-Hungarian troops, notifying them that he had joined in peace proffers. The text of the statement, as received from Vienna today, follows:

"With God's gracious assistance and the royal allies' bravery and en durance, we have created a situation whereby the final victory is no longer doubtful. In an endeavor to give back to the people the blessings of peace, I and my illustrious allies have attempted to bring about an honor-

attempted to bring about an honorable peace.

"I pray that the Almighty may bestow his blessing on this step, but I am convinced you will continue to fight with the heroism you have in the past, until peace is concluded or the enemy crushingly beaten."

Die Post warns the entente "if Germany's hand is refused, her fist will soon be felt with increased force."

The editorial also suggests that Germany's own peace offers indicate there, is no necessity of neutral nations' of fers for peace.

REVOLUTIONISTS ACTIVE

Juarez Hears That They Have

Taken Town Near Mexico City. JUAREZ, Mex., Dec. 13 .- Important move ments of revolutionists under Jose Robles, south of Mexico City, are in progress touay, according to reports brought to the border by foreigners who declare that the City of Puebla, an important city shout one hundred miles south of Mexico City, is in possession of the revolutionists.

Anticipating another attack upon Chihuahua City, nearly all the remaining Americans and foreigners are planning to leave the city and come to the American border.

A party of foreigners, about to take the train here for Chihuahua City early today received telegraphic advice from Gallego, which said a body of troops, believed to be bandits, were discerned in the vicinity of Gallego, and the trip was abandened. in progress today, according to reports

KILLS HIS TWO CHILDREN

PRESIDENT'S FLAG UP AT THE WHITE HOUSE

New Plan Adopted to Show When Chief Executive

Is at Home.

The President's flag was run up on a mast on the White House today and hereafter will fly when the President is in Washington. The new flag will not replace Old Glory, which will connot replace Old Glory, which will continue to fly from a staff surmounting the center of the White House roof.

An ornamental touch is added to the White House by use of the President's flag. The flag shows a facsimile of the American seal, of which the eagle is the most striking figure, on a blue field. Thirteen stars, representing the original colonies, encircle the seal.

Decision to fly the President's flag to denote his presence in the White House was designed to meet the objections to the present plan of lowering the American flag whenever the President is out of Washington.

Arrangements to fly the new flag from a staff at the front of the White House were made by Col. W. W. Harts, engineer officer in charge of public buildings and grounds.

TO PICK INAUGURAL OFFICIALS TODAY

Commissioners Newman and **Brownlow Considered for** Vice Chairmen.

Col. Robert N. Harper, chairman of the Inaugural committee, announce ed at the White House this morning that he will name his vice chairmen and the chairmen of the important committees during the day.

Colonel Harper conferred with Joseph P. Tumulty, secretary to the President, and arranged for a con erence to be held with the President later. This conference will be arthe President gets through his long engagement list in time. If not it will be held tomorrow.

ment of the names of his vice chair-men and chief committees assistants. Colonel Harper would not indicate what men he had int mind. He said he desired to consult two of the men he had on his list to obtain their consent to act on the commit-tees before making announcement. Commissioners Considered.

It is known that the District Com nissioners Oliver P. Newman and Louis Brownlow have received first consideration for appointment as evic chairmen. As heads of the District government it was belived their chief aides would be particularly appropriate, just as is the contemplated selection of Maj. Gen Hugh L. Scott, chief of staff of the army, as grand marshal of the inaugural parade. "No decision or announcement as to the question of an inaugural ball will be made until after I have talked with the President." Colonel Harper said at the White House today. "I shall be guided solely by his wishes.

"I have been led to believe that the President is not in favor of another inaugural ball." Colonel Harper added. The inaugural chairman would not discuss the likelihood of a reception as a substitute for the ball if the latter is abandoned. Louis Brownlow have received first

Would Please Visitors. There has been a suggestion from

nany quarters that a public reception, at which inaugural visitors from all over the country might have ar opportunity to greet the President, would be a fitting substitute for a ball and go far to allay the disep-pointment that would naturally arise from the absence of any public social function in connection with the in-augural.

The most important committee

The most important committee chairmanship that will be announced by Chairman Harper today, aside from the two vice chairmen, is that of head of the finance committee, to which will be assigned the gigantic task of raising funds for the inaugural. A secretary and treasurer of this committee also will be named.

The Young Men's Democratic Club, which was organized in 1884 and participated in the two Cleveland inaugurals and the first inauguration of President Wilson, will meet at the Raleigh Hotel next Monday evening to make plans for participation in the inaugural parade.

POLICE CAPTAINS CHANGED Major Pullman Orders Transfers Effective Saturday.

Sweeping changes were made today in the District Police Department
Capt Charles T. Peck was ordered capt Charles T. Peck was ordered transferred by Major. Pullman from the First to the Second precinct, to be succeeded by Capt. C. E. E. Flather, now commanding the Eighth precinct. Capt. R. E. Doyle, who has been at the second precinct, will succeed Captain Flather at the Eighth precinct.

precinct.

The following other changes were ordered: Sergt, Martin Reilly, from the Secenth to the First precinct; Sergt, T. R. Bean, from the Eighth to the First precinct: Sergt, H. R. Lohman, from the First to the Eighth precinct; Acting Sergt, J. W. Greene, froh the Third to the Seventh precinct and Sergt, R. E. Lee, from the First to the Third precinct.

The changes will become effective Saturday

TO ATTACK LIVING COST

Housekeepers' Alliance to Discuss

Community Buying. At the second of the series of meet ings of the Housekeepers' Alliance through which they plan to develop eapons for attacking the high cost of fiving, community buying will be

KILLS HIS TWO CHILDREN

Long Island Man Then Shoots Himself through the head four, by playing "The Rosary." Gustave Blum, thirtyeight, placed them in his own bed carly today, and, while they slept, in their home at Jamaica, L. I., shot and killed both. Pillows placed over their heads muffied the sound of the pistol. After killing them he shot himself through the head. Blum, accordingt to the police, had heen grieving over the removal of his wife to a hospital for the insane.

Public School on Proposed Pension Bill.

instructors Urged to Make Any Suggestions They Want on Plan.

Every public school teacher in Washington today was given the op-portunity to approve or oppose the roposed teachers' retirement bill. The referendum was taken between and 12 o'clock today through ar angements perfected by the central committee on teacher's retirement, of which Miss Rebecca Shanley is chair

Dr. E. G. Kimball, supervising prin cipal, chairman of the referendum committee, directly took charge of the referendum in grade schools, and W. J. Wallis supervised the ballot marking in the high schools

Form of Ballet Used. The form of referendum ballot used

"Broadly speaking do you approve

"Broadly speaking do you approve
the bill for the retirement of public
school teachers, as printed in The
Washington Times, Friday, November 24, 1916?"
Below this were spaces for checking a "yes" or "no" vote.
But an important feature of the referendum was the opportunity given
trachers to recommend changes in
the proposed measure.
Attached to the ballot was this
statement:

Ballot to Be Secret.

"The referendum committee respect fully requests you to mark the at tached ballot and to return it prompt y to the committee through the per son who handed it to you. The ballot son who handed it to you. The ballot will be a secret one. Suggestions, however, are requested. These may be made in writing, or otherwise, to the chairman of the central committee, Miss Rebecca Shanley, Business High School, or to any member of the central committee."

This was signed "The Referendum Committee," E. G. Kimball, chairman."

The measure voted on today is regarded as the first scientifically framed teachers' pension law framed in this country.

It was drawn up by a committee of teachers in conference with Herbert D. Brown, chief of the United States Bureau of Efficiency, acting as actuary, who apportioned the teachers' contributions in accord with the most accurate available data for annuity

pensions.

The teachers then requested The Washington Times, which had advocated teachers' pensions for geveral (Continued on Twelfth Fage.)

ANDERSON OFF FOR BOSTON Director of Federal Food Probes

Suddenly Changes Plans. Suddenly canceling his plans to pro ceed immediately to the middle West to assume personal direction of the Federal grand jury food probes, Spe cial Assistant Attorney General George W. Anderson today is on his George W. Anderson today is on his George W. Anderson today is on his way to Boston.

He left here late last night, and until today it was presumed he had gone westward.

Department of Justice officials re-

fused to comment on the switch of plans. It was hinted, however, that Anderson, for the present, at least, will confine his work to directing the inquiries from his Boston headquarters.

WILSON CANCELS DATE

Unable to Keep Engagement to Open Red .Cross Meeting.

Owing to the pressure of Executive ousiness President Wilson was compelled this morning to cancel his enpelled this morning to cancel his engagement to open the annual meeting of the American Red Cross Society at Rauscher's this afternoon.

The President fully expected to be able to be present, intending to call the meeting to order and return to the White House to meet his Congressional callers.

He found, however, this morning his list of appointments was too large to permit of his attending the meeting.

TWO "BROUGHT TO LIFE"

State Department Announces Safety of Men in Mexico.

Official State Department dispatches today "brought to life" two men, one an American, who had been reported killed at Chihuahua City during the recent Villista attack.

Henry Harries, American, was said to have been badly beaten, but is now out of danger.

Guillermo Snyman, son of the Boer general, the second reported killed, wasn't even hurt. He is in hiding with several friends, government dispatches say.

GERMANS TAKE TWO SHIPS

Capture Dutch and Brazilian Steamers in Soofden.

BERLIN, via Sayville wireless), Dec. 13.—"On the night of December of German sea forces in Flanders undertook an advance into Soofden and stopped the Dutch steamer Caledonian and the Brazilian steamer Rio Parda," said a Press Bureau statement today. "Both were loaded with contraband en route for England and were brought into port.

WE TALK TOO LOUD, HE SAYS.

That Americans talk too loud, too indistinctly, and that many talk better over the telephone than at any other time were the main features brought out in Prof. John M. Clapp's speech, delivered yesterday before a meeting of the Teachers' Club of Washington. The address was made in connection with the movement for better speech. Superintendent of Schools Ernest M. Thurston introduced the speaker.

TEACHERS VOTE | PEPCO EXPERTS ON RETIREMENT COMPARE COSTS

Referendum Taken in Every Report 41 Per Cent Advance in Year in Building Prices.

ALLOWED TO ASK CHANGES ALL METAL PRICES ARE UP

Nine-Tenths of Copper Supply For Next Year Already Is Sold.

The 1916 prices actually and as ir luded in the reproduction cost esti mates of the experts of the Potoma Electric Power Company show an al normal increase in the costs of build ing materials over previous years. Two competent contractors, eac

honestly bidding for a job and using the economy and their experience as contractors in calculating their esti-mates will vary as much as 15 per cent in their figures.

These are the salient features of the testimony of special experts placed on the stand before the Pubplaced on the stand before the Public Utilities Commission today by the
Potemac Electric Power Company in
the hearing on its estimates of the
valuation of its properties.

The witnesses examined were Lewis
Simon, a dealer in metals on a large
scale; James L. Marshall, contractor
and builder, and Samuel J. Prescott,
contractor and builder.

Cost of Building Soars.

From the testimony and cross-exam veloped that the prices of various ma terials that are included in the pow er company's estimates of costs of re-production of its physical properties have had an abnormal advance since July, 1914.

The increase of building costs in the District from May, 1915, to the present time, covering a period of a little more than a year, were esti-mated on a definite basis to be 41 kg per cent.

mated on a definite particle per cent.

The compartive prices of metals are: Copper, 1914, \$13 per hundred; 1916, \$35.50 per hundred; pig iron, 1914, \$13.02 per ton; 1916, \$31.95 per ton; pig lead, 1914, \$3.57 per hundred; 1916, \$7.80 per hundred.

Witnesses All Experts. The witnesses at today's session ere all introduced by the Potoma-Electric Power Company as experts

Electric Power Company as experts in their special lines.

It is explained that the valuations which the Public Utilities Commission are expected to arrive at are based on three elements. These are the original cost of the properties, the estimated cost of reconstruction of the properties at a certain date, fixed by the commission at July 1, 1914, and the cost of the materials entering into these three kinds of construction. The experts of the Public Utilities Commission and of the Potomac Electric Company have each estimated the costs, and the present hearing is dealing with the element of the reproduction costs.

production costs. In his testimony, Consulting Engineer Harold Almert, who had charge of the etimating of the reproduction costs stated that the manner of arriving at stated that the manner of arriving at those coets was, in a number of cases, to estimate the costs as of July 1, 1918, and deduct from the amount thus obtained the cost of materials purchased during the years of 1914 and 1916 to get the figure for July 1, 1914.

Louis Simon, one of the largest dealers in metals and metal work in the District, was called as the first (Continued on Third Page.)

PANI EXPECTED TONIGHT

To Bring Carranza's Answer to

Mexican Peace Protocol. Albert J. Pani is expected to arrive here tonight with General Carransa's answer to the joint suggestions of the Mexican-American peace commis-

the Mexican-American peace commission.

Pant is bringing with him the peace protrocol agreed upon at Atlantic city by the American and Mexican representatives. Officials admitted they are dubious as to whether Carranza has signed the protrocol. Some who have closely studied Carranza's mental methods said today they believe he has made counter-suggestions, particularly regarding troop withdrawal and border patrolling.

If he has done this it will greatly tend toward nullifying the work of the commission, since that body was supposed to have been credited with almost plenary*powers to reach a de-

supposed to have been credited with almost plenary*powers to reach a decision that either would be wholly approved or wholly rejected.

Any material changes, it was feared, might mean complete abandonment of further contemplated work of the commission and a return to the status obtaining before that body was given charge of discussing the Mexican situation.

WANTS NOISELESS TRAINS

Pittsburgh Residents Angered by "Hissing" Locomotives.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Dec. 13.-Oak land, the acropolis, of Pittsburgh, with its great halls of art and learning, is marred by a nulsance worse by far than the venders whose pres by far than the venders whose presence desecrated the Coliseum in Rome or the Rialto bridge in Venice, according to members of the Oakland board of trade. This nuisance is declared to be the night long and day long hissing and fuming of Baltimore and Ohio railroad locomotives.

JUNE FOR CONFEDERATES

Committee Sets Date for Reunion: Forces Are Organized. The week of June 4 has been an

nounced as the date for the big reun ion of Conferedate veterans in this city. Col. Robert N Harper, chairman of the general committee of arrangements for the reunion, has about completed his work of organization of the forces to prepare for the reunion. He says it is proposed to establish a camp on the White Lot where the meetings will be held.

Claude M. Bennett has been named chairman of the entertainment committee.

BERLIN TREATS DIRECT WITH ENEMIES: U. S. NOT ASKED TO ACT AS MEDIATOR; NEUTRALS MERELY TO TAKE MESSAGE

COL. HOUSE AIDS IN PEACE PLANS

President Confers With Adviser on German Proposal of Terms.

OFFICIAL TEXT IS AWAITED

Wilson Expected to Make Final Effort for Peace Opportunity.

Col. E. M. House is in Washington to advise with President Wilson on the roper course to be pursued by this Government in transmitting to the entente nations the peace proposals of Germany and her allies. Colonel House came to Washington last night primarily to attend the dinner given by the Pres-ident to members of his Cabinet. At the request of the President he has remained over, and during the morning he was engaged in conferences with Mr. Wilson and with Secretary of State

Thus far the official text of the peace offer has not been received, owing, no doubt, to the delays encountered in relaying it from point to point. It is expected that it will arrive sometime loday and that it will be followed by the identic notes from Austria-Hungary, Bulgaria and Turkey.

Must Await Official Text. Opinion in official circles is widely divergent as to the probable course to be pursued by President Wilson At the White House and State Department it is declared that the President cannot definitely shape his de-cision until the official text is before him. None of his Cabinet officers, with the possible exception of Mr. Lansing, has been taken into his con-

Conservative opinion among of-ficials of the State Department varied in the customary forms of diplomacy inclines to the view that the Presi-dent cannot do more at this stage than transmit the communication from the centrol powers to the en-tente group. To do more, as these officials see it, would be to invite the embarrassing consequences of a re-jection.

In these quarters it is pointed out that it would e extremely hazardous for the United States to place itself in the position of championing the proffer of Germany and her allies without a definite indication from the other side that such an attitude would

To Ald Cause of Per Regardless of these considerations, however, there is a widespread feeling among Administration officials that the President will not miss what may be the last oportunity in a long time

be the last oportunity in a long time to put in a word for peace.

That he will supplement the Teutonic offer with an expression of some kind, either through the medium of a formal communication or through instructions to the American diplomats in the entente capitals is therefore regarded by these officials as probable, and there are many who believe that he will adopt the instrument of a formal note, in order that what he has to say may become known to the peoples of the countries affected, as well as to the statesmen.

Nor, it is pointed out, would the President by such action be necessarily proceeding in the dark. Colonel House has twice ben abroad on secret missions for the President, the purpose of which has been to sound (Continued on Second Page.)

(Continued on Second Page.) COUNT ON NEUTRAL'S AID

Germany Expects Them to Influ-

ence Allies in Peace Mov. The central powers are counting upon neutrals of the world to play at mportant part in influencing the entente allies to accept their peace terms, it was declared at the German embassy today. Whatever peace terms are suggest.

ed now might perhaps be interpreted "as what Germany would like to get, not what the expects to get," it was

said.

In view of this, the conference of representatives of the Scandinavian countries and Switzerland at Copenhagen this month is considered here to be of great significance. Spain and Holland may also send delegates.

Actual peace terms are less important now than the necessity of getting a conference, German officials said today. Any terms which may be suggested now would simply be "talking terms," it was emphasized. The real peace terms, officials pointed out, could only be evolved after a long discussion between the parties interested.

BUTTER AND EGGS STIFFEN

Prices on Washington Market, However, Remain Lower.

Butter and egg prices on the Washington market have stiffened somewhat, but they are from 2 to 5 cents lower retail than they were Market men generally believe that prices for all dairy products have reached "their top" for the year, and that after the holidays they will gradually recede, as the hens start on the season of heavy laying, and dairy cows come in fresh.

HARD FIGHTING AT MONASTIR. PARIS, Dec. 13 .- Spirited fighting today's official statement. A Bulgarian counter-attack against Italian positions there was checked by ma-chine guns and artillery fire of the siller.

"NO TRUCE" WITH FOES, IS CANADA'S ANSWER

Premier Borden Says Lasting Peace Is the Aim of England.

SASKATOON, Sash., Dec. 13.—"It is the determination of the people of this land-of the peoples of the British Empire-that there shall be no truce,' the statement of Sir Roger Borden premier of Canada, at a great meeting premier of Canada, at a great meeting here was generally halled today as Canada's official and popular response to the German peace proposals.

"There shall be peace," he said, "which means peace for many years to come. That is the spirit of the people of Canada as it is the spirit of her men at the front, in the hospitals, and in training."

The premier's statement was greeted with a tumult of applause.

BUYING MOVEMENT FORCES PRICES UP

Traders Back Belief Peace Is Not Imminent by Playing Market for Rise.

NEW YORK, Dec. 13 .- Today was bargain day on the Stock Exchange. n the first hour of trading, in which he buying movement exceeded yes terday's selling frenzy by 100,000 shares, prices were forced upward from 1 to 4 points.

Traders took advantage of the low prices and backed their belief that peace is not iminent by playing the

peace is not iminent by playing the market for a rise.

U. S. Steel sold to 119½, up 1½, later dropping back when the buils overplayed their game, and some stocks dropped back slightly.

After a hait around il o'cleck the advance continued. United States Steel selling at 119½, Republic at 83½, and Crucible at 75.

The interest of speculators in the peace proposals centered chiefly in its probable effect on the "war brides." Munition manufacturers were quoted in the street as declaring France and Great Britain have been aware of Germany's intention to make peace proposals for some time, yet they have purchased immense quantities of shells for 1917. They do not look for peace, they declare.

PRINCE GETS LICENSE

Austro-Hungarian Nobleman to

Prince Alfred zu Hohenlphe-Schillingsfuerst, attache of the Austro-Huningsfuerat, attache of the Austro-Hungarian embassy, applied this morning for a license to wed Miss Catherine Britton, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Britton, of Washington. Prince Hohenlohn was accompanied by Mr. Britton and the license was made out by Col. W. A. Kroll, clerk of the Marriage License Bureau.

The prince's age was given as twenty-seven, and his residence as the Austro-Hungarian consulate at San Francisco. He was detached from the embassyk last spring and sent to San Francisco on special service connected with the compiling of a consular report. The license gave Miss Britton's age as twenty-four.

The ceremony will be performed by Mgr. William T. Russell, recently appointed bishop of Charleston, S. C. and present pastor of St. Patrick's Roman Catholic Church. In order to be married during the advent season, the young couple were obliged to obtain a special dispensation from his eminence, Cardinal Gibbons.

The wedding will take place at noon Thursday at the Britton residence in Q street and will be attended by a small company. It is not thought that any members of the embassy staff will be present at the ceremony, at least in an official capacity. The prince and his bride expect to make their home in California for the present. garian embassy, applied this morning

FEAR SHIP AND CREW LOST Canadian Torpedo Boat Grilse Be-

lieved to Have Sunk. OTTAWA, Ontario, Dec. 13 .- The which is based on Germany's idea of chief censor issues the following re-

"The minister of naval service regrets to report that it is feared that H. M. Canadian torpedo boat Crilso, Lieut. Walter Wingate, R. N. C. V. R., has been lost at sea with all hands."
"The vessel left Halifax at 3 p. m. December 11 for Bermuda. At 3 p. m. December 12, a wireless message was received stating that owing to weather, she was returning for shelter to Shelbourne, Nova Scotia. At 7:28 p. m. she called "S O S" stating her position was latitude 43.40 north, longitude 64.50 west. At 7:30 p. m. a final message was received 'Now sinking.' "The minister of naval service re-

sinking.

"No word of her has been received since. Orders were immediately given for all available vessels to proceed to her assistance, and endeavors made by wireless to inform any vessels at sea in that vicinity. Vessels are now searching for any signs of wreckage.

"The list of officers on board the ship at the time is:

"Lieut. Walter Wingate; Sub Lieutenant C. McL. Fry, Sub Lieutenant Richard E. Winsloe, Artificier Engineer Robert Wilkinson, wireless operators S. A. McLean and E. Clement."

LOV/ER PARCEL POST RATE

Resolution Introduced to Eliminate Zone System on Food.

American Embassy stands It Is Simply to Convey Note to Allies.

DIPLOMATS PRAISE MOVE

Von Bethmann-Hollweg's Action Called Master Stroke in Official Circles.

PAPER SUPPORTS PROPOSAL

Tageblatt Says That Everyone Should Back Plan, in Cautious Article Today.

BERLIN, Dec. 13.—Germany has not asked neutral governments to start eace negotiations

The American embassy's understanding is that she has merely asked neutral powers to inform the nations of the entente that the central powers are willing to discuss peace-putting up to the allies the acquiesence of refusal of the tender.

Called Master Stroke.

The Diplomatic Corps here generally considers the German move a master stroke. Secretary Grew, of the American embassy, personally typed a translation of the note, of which he received

two copies, one written in French The American charge was asked to communicate the text to London. Petrograd, Paris, and Roumania; the Spanish ambassador being requested to transmit it to Belgium and Portugal, and the Swiss ambassador Italy.

Sent Copy to Page.

Although Secretary Grew address coded copy of the German note dia coded copy of the German note direct to Washington and expected that
it would reach the American ambases,
dor in London by Wednesday (today),
it was believed improbable that Page
would transmit the note to Foreign Secretary Balfour, in London, before
specific orders were received from
Washington.

It was estimated here it would probably be several days before the note
was officially in all belligerents hands.

Urgee Support. The Tageblatt today cautiousty says that everyone should support the love with full power, since it hape the first step toward peace. The Vossiche Zeitung explains that that neutral nations in this instance

do not act as mediators, but merely as carriers of the proposal. BRITISH PEOPLE REFUSE

Germany's Proposal Aiready Asset wered by Public.

LONDON, Dec. 13.-The British perpis have already answered Germany's offer of peace-"No, not on such a baris as proposed." That answer was perfectly apparent today. It was reflected not only in the newspaper commend, but in expres-

sions from the people on the streets.

Looks to New Premier. The nation looks to Lloyd-George next Tuesday to frame this answer It cannot be a direct reply, since it is hardly expected England's consults is hardly expected England's consulta-tion with her allies over what form the diplomatic answer shall be, can be concluded that soon.

But Tuesday will be Lloyd George's first appearance as premier before the House of Commons and Defore news of the German proposal came, he had been announced as ready to outline on that date the aims and purposes of the new cabinet.

To Voice Rejection. Press and public alike look to Lloyd-George on this occasion to voice the nation's rejection of any peace

victory.

Germany's peace terms, as given out by a German embassy official in Washington, were generally regarded as preposterous and unworthy of serious consideration here.

Lloyd-George's telegram to Premier

Indicate Attitude.

Lloyd-George's telegram to Premier Briand, of France, together with the former's recent interview granted the United Press, portions of which were liberally reproduced in the British press today, were considered indicative of Britain's attitude toward von Bethmann-Hollweg.

The only keynote of difference observable in editorial comment today was whether the allies, in their reply to the German note, should set forth therein their own terms upon which peace discussion would be considered.

Will Be Rejected. If the practical unanimity of opinion of the press and public means anything, the reply will be rejected. Press comment ranged today all the way from the Daily Mail's suggestion that von Bethmann-Hollweg is "no more entitled to the courtesy of a raply than an armed burglar in a private house," to that made by the Manchester Guardian that negotiations should at least go as far as to ascertain Germany's exact terms.

Would Be Direct.

A number of newspapers point out Congressman Emerson of Ohio to day introduced a resolution calling on Postmaster General Burleson to recommend to Congress whether, because of the high cost of living, it would be desirable to eliminate the zone system of the parcel post on necessary food products, reduce "temporarily at least" the charges for such products, and to increase the weight limit on the continuance of the war—which responsibility Germany obviously seems to the desirability in view of the manner in which Germany made her offer, that the allies in replying, clearly enuncians their own aims in the war, for the terms on which the allies are willing to enter peace negotiations be clearly set forth. Such comment holds that only in this way can responsibility for the continuance of the war—which responsibility Germany obviously seems to